

FORD GONE, PEACE SHIP ON SCALES

Leaves Party Flat and Starts For America on Eve of Christmas With the Boys Still in the Trenches—Women to Conduct Mission For Peace, is Report—Not Known Whether Manufacturer Will Continue to Furnish the Bank-roll For Junket—Most of Party Do Not Know That Sponsor is on High Seas, Homeward Bound.

Christiania, Norway, Dec. 24.—The Norwegian liner Bergenfjord, with Henry Ford on board, sailed for New York this morning.

Mr. Ford started before leaving Bergen that the peace expedition would continue under the auspices of the Women's International Peace Association.

The Rev. Samuel S. Marquis, dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit, sailed from Bergen with Mr. Ford.

Before leaving Christiania for Bergen, Mr. Ford wrote out the following statement for the press:

"I am satisfied with what has been accomplished in Christiania. Peace has been given publicity. Newspapers have power to end the war for it is true publicity that the gospel of peace is spread.

"Norway is like every other country. The people are all right." In an announcement at Bergen the circumstances under which the expedition would be continued, Mr. Ford said a committee had been appointed to act as leaders. It consists of Judge Ben Lindsay of Denver, the Rev. Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones of Chicago, John Barry of San Francisco, Lieut. Gov. Andrew J. Bethea of South Carolina, and Louis P. Lochner of Chicago, Mr. Ford's secretary.

Christiania newspapers say that in view of Mr. Ford's departure no prominent Norwegians will join the expedition.

Say Ford Loosened Up.

London, Dec. 24.—A Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. says:

"Before leaving Mr. Ford gave a check for 1,000,000 kroner, (about \$270,000) to finance the expedition. He left because he recognized that it was impossible to make headway. His party was always at loggerheads and Scandinavian pacifists adopted an attitude of reserve. When Mr. Ford (Continued on Page 2)

POLICEMEN NEAR, JEWELRY STORE IS BURGLARIZED

Thieves Rob Shop Early in Morning and Escape With Loot.

ELUDE PURSUERS ON DIMLY-LIGHTED ROAD

Burglars Get \$75 Worth of Christmas Gifts For Their Temerity.

Two men who broke a window in the jewelry store of Max Boas, at Arch and Main streets, procured \$75 worth of jewelry at 3:15 o'clock this morning. Two policemen who came by there at the time chased the men, but lost them in the darkness of Arch street.

Policeman Thomas Weller was walking south on Main street on the same side as the jewelry store is, and Policeman Levi Mendelson was on the other side. As they approached the Strand theatre, a painter there shouted: "Good morning, officers. Won't you come in?"

Two men were bending down near the window of the store. When they heard the word "officers," which carried well in the stillness of the street, they ran up Arch street.

The policemen didn't know then that the window in the store had been broken, otherwise they would have fired warning shots at the other policemen. They chased the men unavailingly.

When they returned they discovered a burglar had been committed. After communication with the owner of the store it was learned that the thieves had taken \$75 worth of jewelry, including a watch, a ring, a chain, and a bracelet.

It is believed that the men broke the window, which was heavily plate glass, with a stone. The stone was a hole there scarcely large enough for a hand. A silver vase was near the hole and it is the belief of the police that the men were unable to pull it through the break.

AUSTRIA RECEIVES ANCONA NOTE IN FRIENDLY SPIRIT WILL SEEK TO AVOID BREAK

BRITISH REPORT LOSS OF MORE THAN 500,000 MEN SINCE WAR BEGAN

London, Dec. 24.—Replying to a written question by P. A. Molloy, member of the House of Commons, Premier Asquith today gave the total British casualties up to Dec. 9, as 528,227.

The casualties as given by Premier Asquith, corrected the figures concerning losses at the Dardanelles given yesterday in the House of Commons. At that time the casualties up to Dec. 11 were given as 112,921, a smaller total than the premier gave today for the operations to Dec. 8.

The casualties were distributed as follows: Flanders and France: Officers and men, 38,988; Dardanelles, officers and men, 114,555; other theatres, officers and men, 25,684.

"TRUCE FOR CHRISTMAS" UPSET AT MANY POINTS.

London, Dec. 24.—Many isolated engagements on various fronts have upset predictions of the universal Christmas truce. Nothing of great importance, however, has developed.

From Galicia the Russians report success in an action against the Austrians. Tremboulia, where there has

been indication recently that the Austrians and Germans are seeking to strengthen their lines. Although no activity is reported on the Mesopotamian front, the Russians are advancing steadily in an effort to link their forces with those of their British allies.

On Hartmanns-Werkkopp the French claim to have maintained their gains on a front of one mile but admit their left has been compelled to fall back. The Germans assert that they have retaken the lost ridge and capture of a large number of prisoners.

Special despatches to London papers state the Bulgarians are preparing to invade Greek territory in an effort to expel the allies from Saloniki. The entente forces are engaged in strengthening their positions and expressing confidence that there is no immediate prospect of an offensive against them.

Parliament adjourned without receiving the figures concerning the Earl of Derby's recruiting plan, but on re-assembling after the holidays the members will have the facts in regard to the question of whether conscription is necessary.

Reply, Expected Soon, Will Satisfy American Demands, is Belief—Washington to Investigate Sinking of Japanese Steamer By Austrian Submarine—England May Modify Shipping Restrictions.

Vienna, Dec. 24.—In all quarters the conviction is now entertained that the differences between Austria-Hungary and the United States which arose from the Ancona incident are susceptible to amicable settlement.

The Austria-Hungarian reply to the latest Ancona note may be expected in a few days.

The second Ancona note from Washington is being studied here. Meanwhile the press is withholding comment. The remark incident to the announcement that the note had been received were temperate and even friendly in tenor.

No inkling has been gained as to the nature of the forthcoming Austro-Hungarian communication to the United States but in this connection interest attaches to an article by Prof. Henry Lammach, one of the leading Austrian authorities on international law, and a member of the tribunal at The Hague. Prof. Lammach suggests that in view of the fact that there is a misunderstanding between the two nations, an international commission of naval experts from neutral countries be appointed to examine the Ancona case as was done in the famous USS Maine incident. It is felt in certain quarters here that this procedure would offer the best chance of establishing the facts and thus placing the responsibility.

The Associated Press correspondent can state on the best authority that the Austrian government as well as the German, is willing to do its utmost to maintain good relations with the United States, provided no conditions regarded as prejudicial to the honor of this nation are imposed.

Cologne Criticizes Wilson

Amsterdam, Dec. 24.—Commenting on the second American note to Austria-Hungary concerning the Ancona incident, the Zeitung, of Cologne, makes a vigorous attack on President Wilson. It says the President will not let slip an opportunity to gain great success "unless failure would prejudice his prospects for the next election."

FIRE CHIEF FINDS TWO TOTS MOANING OVER CHARRED BODY OF MOTHER, FATALLY BURNED

Pot of Grease Boils Over, and Flames Envelope Housewife As She Prepares Noonday Meal For Little Family.

Preparing dinner for a family of four just before noon, Mrs. Frank Lakacs of 210 Spruce street, was enveloped in flames when a pot of grease tipped over on the stove and the flames fired her clothing. Little hope is held for her recovery at St. Vincent's hospital where she was taken in a critical condition.

Her screams attracted the attention of neighbors, but before they could extinguish the flames, Mrs. Lakacs had been horribly burned from her scalp to her neck. Neighbors tore her clothes off but not in time to prevent probably fatal burns.

An alarm of fire was rung in from box No. 244, but the fire was extinguished before the arrival of the firemen. Fire Chief Daniel Johnson was on the scene and he was moved to tears when he saw the dying mother lying on the rear lawn, bound in a bed sheet, with her two children, aged two and four years, moaning in grief.

Chief Johnson sent in a call for the emergency hospital corps and Dr. John F. Canavan ordered a hurried trip made to St. Vincent's hospital. Almost no hope is held for her recovery. Two spots on her face were discolored. She has been unconscious since the arrival of the ambulance.

Mrs. Lakacs' husband is a laborer in a West End factory and the family consisted of one son, John, aged 21, and two children who witnessed the burning of their mother.

Dooley Made Head of Trolleyman's Union

James Dooley was elected president of the Division 459, A. A. S. E. R. E., at the annual election of officers of the local trolley union held yesterday at the Palace Bowling Alley, Congress street. He defeated his opponent Anthony Wolfe 55 to 44. Other officers elected were: J. Moran, vice-president; J. Plunkett, recording secretary; J. Kelly, financial secretary; J. F. O'Neill, treasurer; J. Dammigan, for correspondent to motormen and conductors; and J. Dooley, delegate to the joint conference board. The executive board is J. Dooley, C. Cosier, E. Flanagan, T. Griffin, F. Kelley, A. Wolfe and W. Morton.

BARKHAMSTED HAS FIRE

Winsted, Dec. 24.—Word was received here today of the burning at Barkhamsted yesterday of a large farmhouse owned and occupied by Aaron Messinger. The fire started from a defective chimney. The loss is about \$2,000. The farmhouse was one of the landmarks of the town, being 135 years old.

XMAS OF 1915 GREATEST EVER, TRADING SHOWS Officials of All Businesses in Bridgeport Unite in This Belief.

"The greatest Christmas New England has ever seen," is the consensus of opinion of railroad, express, banking and department store heads in this city today as they labored with the final shipments, sales and check payments for the belated holiday gift-givers.

At the railroad station the platforms were thronged from early morning with a happy, prosperous appearing crowd of men who were carrying well-filled catchalls, suit cases and hampers in preparation for their journeys or greeting their incoming friends. The uniforms of soldiers and sailors, and the President's grand children, were seen in the crowd.

Express matter, cared for during the entire night, was still arriving in huge quantities at the express depot. It was shipped out in train loads of five steel cars as fast as they could be filled. It was estimated that express matter alone would fill 25 cars today while parcel post and mail matter would crowd even a larger number of the hunk railway carriers.

In the department and smaller stores throughout the city only broken lines of stock were available at noon-time, the greatest shopping period experienced here in many years. The stores were nearly closed. Store officials declared that shopping had been done early during the month and continued steadily. The tail-end rush tonight is expected to be a very busy one.

The charitable organizations have made marked progress in the collection of funds and preparation for distribution of dinners and necessities. It is said there are fewer needy persons this year, there is a marked contrast with other seasons and contributions to many causes consequently been very liberal. Special dinners will be served and baskets distributed by the Salvation Army, Christian Union, Hillside home, county jail, Elks and other institutions and organizations.

Banks, which will keep open until late this evening, have been busily engaged in passing out quantities of gold pieces ranging from the \$2.50 denomination to the double eagle, which have been distributed by employers among their office forces and will sink heavily into the Christmas stockings tomorrow.

Special preparations for an extraordinary Christmas dinner are being made by local clubs and it is expected they will be thronged during the evening hours.

Christmas spirit will extend even into the Sound, for all tugboat and barge captains in the harbor will have the day off without work. Those vessels that have not left the breakwater by sundown tonight will, according to ancient custom, remain at anchor. Interchange of visits between the masters will be made and general conviviality among the crews will reign. Extra rations will be served in the galleys. All vessels under way will celebrate the day by doing up the necessary shifting of sails and special dinners will be served.

Restaurants and luncheons have prepared especially attractive menus for those without homes in this city. At Lakeview Home the menu will consist of turkey, cranberry sauce, (Continued on Page 2.)

MELLEN'S "PERPENDICULAR FARM" ENTERS INTO FINAL ARGUMENTS IN NEW HAVEN CONSPIRACY CASE

New York, Dec. 24.—Charles S. Mellen's "perpendicular farm" became an issue today during the argument before Judge Hunt on the motions to dissolve the indictments against the 1 former directors of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad. This is the farm, situated in a mountain notch on the route of the proposed extension of the Grand Trunk lines in Massachusetts which Mellen testified he bought at a time that the road was seeking a right-of-way to New Haven.

The incident was cited by Assistant District Attorney Stevenson as an example of the methods used by the New Haven in its alleged purpose to obtain a monopoly. Judge Hunt said to know what evidence there was that any of the defendants participated in the scheme. The Federal attorney asserted that Mellen made the purchase in pursuance of a resolution of the board of directors authorizing him to take steps to obtain a right of way for the New Haven.

Mr. Stephenson was followed by R. L. Batts, chief counsel for the government, who dwelt on the methods used by the New Haven, addressing his argument particularly to the legal application of the Sherman law to such methods.

"But it is due to these defendants today," continued Mr. Batts, "that the impression current in many parts of the United States that they profited personally—that they participated in graft, has no foundation. We do not claim that they were actuated by what may be called a corrupt intent. That does not mean, however, that they did not intend to violate the law."

Those of the directors who were manufacturers may have thought that the monopoly gained by the New Haven was of benefit to New England and that the government would not interfere with the enterprise.

The law, he added, was made by the people of the United States and "such conditions as existed in New England are bad for the people of the United States."

It would not do, he continued, that a monopoly should exist, "bigger than the government under which it was created."

Speaking of the acquisition of the Boston & Maine, Mr. Batts charged that the defendant, Lewis Cass Leeward, was the "initiator and the chief participant" in the steps which brought that road under the control of the New Haven and obtained thereby a complete monopoly.

Mrs. Palatiello Sues Mortimer Stowe

Edwige Palatiello, widow of Nicolo Palatiello of 467 Lexington avenue, who was killed when he fell from his bicycle in front of a motor truck owned by Mortimer Stowe, is preparing to bring an action for damages against the truckman.

In the probate court today Mrs. Palatiello was appointed administratrix of her husband's estate. The estate is said to consist of \$465 in savings banks. If she obtains a judgment for damages against Mr. Stowe, that also will be part of the estate according to the papers now on file in the probate court.

Louis Abriola and Frank Palatiello were appointed appraisers of the estate. Mrs. Palatiello has two children, Florence, aged two years, and Michael, aged 10 months. After an investigation, Coroner Phelan held blameless the driver of the motor truck that killed Palatiello and he was discharged in the city court after an arrest on a charge of manslaughter.

Foreclosure on Knapp Property at Park

An order for the foreclosure of the Park place property owned by E. Louise Faxon Knapp, wife of Herbert M. Knapp of the bankrupt firm of Burr & Knapp, was given by Judge Burpee today in the superior court. Silas Knapp, who held the defendant's note for \$10,000, brought proceedings. It was shown that there was \$533.36 in interest due and unpaid. The court ruled that Mrs. Knapp could redeem the property by paying \$10,000 and interest before June 1, 1916.

NO FARMER TOMORROW

In accordance with custom, The Farmer will omit publication tomorrow, Christmas day.

Present Gold Ring To Paul Goulding

Members of the Connecticut Coast Artillery corps band after rehearsal last night presented Director Paul G. Goulding with a solid gold ring marked in enamel emblematic of the Scottish Rite Masonic degree, of which Director Goulding is a member.

Mr. Goulding directs the music used in many Masonic ceremonies. The presentation was made at the army last night in the band room by Lieut. William N. Potter, post adjutant and commander of the band. Director Goulding made a fitting speech, thanking his players for the gift. Afterward refreshments were served.

Secret Session of Court For Trial of Ellsworth Divorce

The divorce suit brought by Lida Burpee Ellsworth, daughter of Judge Lucien F. Burpee of the superior court, against John Stoughton Ellsworth, wealthy New Canaan resident, will be heard behind closed doors.

Judge Case in the superior court this morning appointed Attorney Charles S. Canfield a committee to take testimony.

Mrs. Ellsworth charges her husband with intolerable cruelty. She alleges he is worth \$100,000 and has an annual income of \$9,000. Ellsworth was prominent in athletics while at Yale and one year was manager of the baseball team. His wife asks the court to allow her the custody of four minor children.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Only one Christmas eve marriage license was granted today. It was to James A. Shannon, 36, factory worker, of 96 Clinton avenue to wed Mary A. J. Gallagher, 34, of New York.

TORPEDOING OF JAPANESE STEAMER WITH AMERICAN ON BOARD TO BE PROBED

Washington, Dec. 24.—Inquiry into the sinking of the Japanese liner Yawaka Maru by an Austrian submarine in the Mediterranean will be made by the state department through American Consular agents.

Further diplomatic correspondence with Austria-Hungary will result, it was said, if official reports confirm press despatches that the steamer was sunk without warning.

No official information of the incident had reached the state department today. It was felt, however, that press despatches contained statements which warranted prompt investigation and the chief of state was asked to obtain accurate versions of the incident and forward them without delay to the state department.

Should the department's investigation establish the truth of reports that the liner was sunk without warning by an Austrian submarine, it is said, further diplomatic correspondence with Austria-Hungary will ensue, in which the entire method of conducting submarine warfare will be discussed and demands will be made by the United States for abandonment of sinking ships without warning.

Coming at a time when officials believed the controversy over the Ancona is on the point of amicable settlement, the Yawaka Maru incident is regarded as being especially deplorable.

Wife Who Was Felled By Milk Bottle Gets Yuletide Separation

It was a joyful yuletide for five petitioners who were granted divorces by Judge Case in the superior court this afternoon.

Harry Thorpe of this city, was granted a decree from Carrie Shibel Thorpe of Bayonne, N. J. Deserter July 1, 1912, was alleged. The couple were married June 2, 1896.

Lena M. Hargrave said Arthur A. Hargrave of Danbury, knocked her down with a milk bottle. This was one of a long list of cruel acts and the court allowed a divorce.

The couple were married January 14, 1907. Margaret Morrison of Danbury, was freed from James A. Morrison of Danbury on the ground of desertion in August, 1905. The couple were married October 4, 1894. Mrs. Morrison's maiden name was Margaret Roome.

Addie L. Handley of Norwalk said Harry Handley deserted her in July, 1912. She was married to him July 4, 1895. Her maiden name was Addie Thompson.

Mabel Bouton Calvert of Danbury, was given a divorce from Gresham H. Calvert of Danbury. Intolerable cruelty was the ground. Mrs. Calvert married the defendant March 21, 1909.

SHANLEY ESTATE

Thomas A. Shanley of East Main street was named administrator of his mother's estate which consists of \$208 in savings banks. His mother was the late Catherine Shanley who lived in East Main street. Other heirs to the estate are Annie E. Shanley and Mary D. Boynton, daughters.

One Asphyxiated, Another Overcome By Illuminating Gas

Mrs. Amanda Cox, aged 68, a resident of the West End, who when taking a nap early yesterday morning forgot to extinguish the gas in the stove, was found dead from suffocation, yesterday afternoon by her grandchild, Lawrence Cox, in her home, 2339 Fairfield avenue.

Mrs. Cox for twenty years was a member of the Black Rock Congregational church and will be mourned by a host of friends in this city. Her death has been declared by Medical Examiner S. M. Garlick to be accidental.

She is survived by six children: Mrs. Emma Patten and Fred Cox of Chasney, Oklahoma; Miss Anna Smith of Fairfield; Mrs. Sadie Mills, Mrs. Mona Converse and Edward Cox of this city.

Miss Gladys Cox, a granddaughter, in the house at the time of the accident, was seriously affected by the escaping fumes and was resuscitated with difficulty by surgeons.

MISSISSIPPI BRIDGE FALLS

Memphis, Dec. 24.—Upwards of \$500,000 damage was done last night when about 300 feet of the steel "falsework" of the Harahan railroad and wagon bridge which is to span the Mississippi here, was swept away by a rapid rise in the river. No one was injured. The bridge is being constructed at a cost of approximately \$5,000,000.

THE WEATHER

Cloudy tonight; Saturday unsettled, rain or snow. Variable winds.